

5 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system to schedule calls for placement comprising:
a service switching point (SSP) being in communication with a first telephone station associated with said scheduling party and at least one other telephone station associated with at least one scheduled party to be called, said first telephone station receiving call schedule information on a telephone interface and communicating said call schedule information to said service switching point (SSP);

a service node (SN) communicating with the service switching point (SSP), said service switching point (SSP) adapted to connect the second telephone station with the first telephone station in accordance with said call schedules; and

a service control point (SCP) communicating with said service switching point (SSP), and comprising: an administrative computing application, a call scheduling computing application, and a call information database, said service control point (SCP) identifying said service node (SN) as adapted to connect said at least one other telephone station with the first telephone station in accordance with said call schedules.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein said service switching point (SSP) upon receipt of a request from said first telephone station to schedule a call, sends a request to said service control point (SCP) to execute said administrative computing application and said call scheduling application, said administrative computing application determining if said first telephone station is allowed to schedule calls, said call scheduling application, upon confirmation that said first telephone station is allowed to schedule calls, cooperating with said SSP to accept, store and manage required call scheduling data.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein said service switching point (SSP), upon receipt of a request from said service control point (SCP), communicates a request from said service control point (SCP) to identify service nodes (SN) that may be used to communicate with said first telephone station, said service switching point (SSP) cooperating with said identified service

3 5 nodes (SN) to prompt said first telephone station to input call schedule information indicative of desired scheduled calls.

4. The system recited in claim 3, wherein said prompts comprise information representative of: a request to enter the time of the scheduled call, a request to enter the frequency of the
10 scheduled call, and a request to enter the telephone number for the scheduled call.

5. The system recited in claim 2, wherein said call schedule application of said service control point (SCP) creates a record for each scheduled call and storing said record in said call information database.

6. The system of claim 2, wherein said request from said first telephone station includes information identifying at least the subscriber to the call scheduling service.

7. The system of claim 2, wherein said service switching point (SSP) launches a trigger application in response to the request from said first telephone station, said trigger application generating the request to the service control point (SCP).
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8. The system of claim 2, wherein the request to the service control point (SCP) from the service switching point (SSP) comprises information identifying a telephone station associated
25 with said scheduling party to call at the time of a scheduled call.

9. The system of claim 2, wherein said service control point (SCP), in response to the request from the service switching point (SSP), searches said database for information identifying service nodes adapted to place calls to said scheduling party and to said scheduled
30 party.

5 10. The system of claim 2, wherein said call schedule application of said service control point (SCP) monitors the time for scheduled calls; said call schedule application, upon reaching the time for a scheduled call communicates to said service switching point (SSP) information representative of said scheduled call comprising identified service nodes (SN) that may be used to complete the scheduled call and a request to place a confirmation call to the scheduling party,
10 said service switching point (SSP) communicating with least one of said service nodes (SN) a request to place said confirmation call.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein said service node (SN), in response to the request from the service switching point (SSP), places said confirmation call to said at least one other telephone station indicative of said scheduling party.

12. The system of claim 10, wherein said service node (SN), in response to the request from the service switching point, places said confirmation call to an alternate telephone station associated with said scheduling party.

13. The system recited in claim 11 or 12, wherein said service control point (SCP), upon receiving confirmation for said scheduled call, instructs said service switch point (SSP) to place said scheduled call to said scheduled party using said identified service node (SN).

14. The system recited in claim 11 or 12, wherein said call schedule application of said service control point (SCP), upon receiving no confirmation for said scheduled call, deletes the created record for the scheduled call.

15. The system of claim 1, wherein the connection between said service switching point (SSP) and said second telephone station comprises a second service switching point (SSP).

16. In an advanced intelligent network (AIN) comprising a service switching point (SSP) connected to a first telephone station, a plurality of service nodes (SN) each having interactive data systems, a service control point (SCP) containing a database, and at least one telephone station, a method of call scheduling from a first telephone station to schedule calls to said at least one other telephone station, comprising the acts of:

(a) at the service switching point (SSP), accepting call schedule information representative of scheduled calls from said first telephone station, said service switching point (SSP) communicating said call schedule information to said service control point (SCP);

(b) processing said call schedule information by said service control point (SCP) to ascertain the parameters for the scheduled call,

(c) storing said call schedule information by said service control point (SCP) in a cooperating SCP call schedule information database;

(d) monitoring said stored call schedule information by said service control point (SCP) to determine if a scheduled call is to be placed; and

(e) upon the scheduled time for a scheduled call, placing said scheduled call by said service control point (SCP), said service control point (SCP) communicating with said service switching point (SSP) to place the call according to said stored call schedule information, said service control point (SSP) communicating a request to said service control point to identify cooperating service nodes (SN) to assist in placing the scheduled call, said service control point (SSP) cooperating with said identified service nodes (SN) to place the scheduled call.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said call schedule information comprises any of at least one time for at least one scheduled call, at least one date for at least one scheduled call, and at least one number to be call for at least one scheduled call.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of accepting call schedule information further comprises determining a confirmation number for use when placing a confirmation call.

5 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising the act of confirming the scheduled call by said service control point (SCP), said service control point (SCP) cooperating with said service switching point (SSP) and said identified service nodes (SN) to place a confirmation call to the scheduling party using said stored call schedule information to receive confirmation of said scheduled call.

10 20. The method recited in claim 19, wherein upon receiving confirmation from said confirmation call, said service control point (SCP) cooperates with said service switching point (SSP) and said service nodes (SN) to place said scheduled call.

15 21. The method of claim 19, wherein said confirmation comprises any of: a DTMF code and an electronic message.

20 22. The method of claim 16, further comprising, in response to receiving call schedule information from said first telephone station, the act of launching a trigger at the service switching point (SSP), said trigger acting to notify said service control point (SCP) that a call is to be scheduled.

25 23. The method of claim 16, wherein the database at the service control point (SCP) comprises information identifying for said service switching point (SSP) cooperating plurality of service nodes for use when processing scheduled calls.

30 24. The method of claim 23, wherein the act of identifying to the service switching point (SSP) the plurality of service nodes (SN), comprises transmitting the directory numbers corresponding to the plurality of service nodes by said service control point (SCP).

25. A method of scheduling calls in a telephone network, comprising the acts of:

5 (a) receiving a request to schedule a call from a telephone station at a service switching point (SSP), said request providing information about the scheduled call and the scheduling party;

(b) at a service switching point (SSP) communicating the call schedule information to a service control point (SCP);

10 (c) at the service control point (SCP) processing the call schedule information to ascertain the parameters of the requested scheduled call;

(d) at the service control point (SCP), upon the time of the scheduled call, the service control point (SCP) identifying service nodes (SN) for use to place the scheduled call, said service control point (SCP) cooperating with the service switching point and identified service nodes (SN) to place the scheduled call.

26. A method of completing telephone calls comprising the acts of:

(a) receiving from a first party information indicative of a call to be scheduled, said information comprising a telephone number associated with a telephone station to be called and a time to call said telephone station;

(b) storing the received information;

(c) waiting until said time arrives;

(d) placing a confirmation call to said first party;

(e) transmitting, to said first party over said confirmation call, an inquiry as to whether said first party should be connected to said telephone station;

(f) receiving a response from said first party indicating that said first party should be connected to said telephone station; and

(g) connecting said first party to said telephone station.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein said information is received from a telephone interface of a telephone station.

5 28. ~~B~~ The method of claim 26, wherein said information further indicates a second telephone number at which said confirmation call should be placed.

B 29. The method of claim 26, wherein said information further indicates a date.

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